

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PDIP, PINS, MI, ET, TZ, SO

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLANS

1. AF HAS DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE DRAFTING OF NEW CLASSIFIED HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLANS FOR A NUMBER OF KEY AF COUNTRIES, USING OUR OWN FORMAT RATHER THAN THAT ORIGINALLY DEvised BY HA AND USED IN PREPARATION OF LAST ROUND OF SUCH CLASSIFIED PAPERS LAST SUMMER. FOLLOWING OUTLINE WILL REPLACE PART B IN THOSE PAPERS; PART A WILL STAND, WITH REVISIONS AS NECESSARY.

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2. THE INTENTION OF THE NEW OUTLINE IS TO WEAVE HUMAN RIGHTS INTO THE OVERALL COUNTRY AND US POLICY CONTEXT, IN LINE WITH OUR VIEW THAT HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT BE SEPARATED FROM OUR OVERALL POLICY IN A GIVEN COUNTRY. MORE TO THE POINT, THE HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY TO BE SET FORTH IS INTENDED TO SET BASIC GUIDELINES FOR US HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS IN A NUMBER OF KEY COUNTRIES OVER

THE NEXT SIX TO TWELVE MONTHS.

3. ADDRESSEES ARE INVITED TO MAKE DRAFT SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OUTLINE BELOW. MAXIMUM LENGTH OF THE FINAL PRODUCT WILL BE FIVE SINGLE-SPACED PAGES. DEADLINE FOR SUCH SUBMISSIONS IS JANUARY 16, BUT ADDRESSEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, TO PERMIT THOROUGH AND JUDICIOUS REVIEW IN AF AND IF REQUIRED, ANOTHER ROUND OF CONSULTATION WITH THE FIELD.

4. OUTLINE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION PLAN FOR COUNTRY X

I. COUNTRY OVERVIEW- ENVIRONMENTAL --

INCLUDE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL BACKGROUND TO PUT THE COUNTRY IN CONTEXT. HIGHLIGHT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, INCLUDING ITS VIEWS ON THE THREE BASIC CATEGORIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ITS OVERALL HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD. IDENTIFY MAJOR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS PROBLEM AREAS. INDICATE THE GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESS OR FAILURE IN IMPLEMENTING ITS FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC POLICIES AND PROGRAMS.

II. MAJOR US INTERESTS - GOALS AND OBJECTIVES --

OUTLINE IN BRIEF NARRATIVES THE SIX OR SEVEN MAJOR US POLITICAL, STRATEGIC, ECONOMIC, DEVELOPMENTAL AND

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HUMANITARIAN OBJECTIVES IN THE COUNTRY. INCLUDE IN EACH SECTION BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS OF HOW WE ARE WORKING TO ATTAIN THESE OBJECTIVES, AND SOME INDICATION OF OUR PROGRESS TO DATE.

III. HUMAN RIGHTS

A. OBJECTIVES: IN TERMS OF THE THREE BASIC CATEGORIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS OUTLINED BY THE SECRETARY IN HIS APRIL 1977 LAW DAY ADDRESS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, SPECIFY BRIEFLY OUR MAJOR HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES IN THE COUNTRY IN TERMS OF THE SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG TERM. THESE BASIC CATEGORIES ARE:

-- THE RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM GOVERNMENTAL VIOLATION OF THE INTEGRITY OF THE PERSON. (FREEDOM FROM TORTURE, CRUEL, DEGRADING OR INHUMAN PUNISHMENT OR TREATMENT, ARBITRARY ARREST OR IMPRISONMENT: THE RIGHT TO A FAIR TRIAL AND INVIOABILITY OF THE HOME: THE RIGHT TO LIFE ITSELF.)

-- THE RIGHT TO FULFILLMENT OF SUCH VITAL NEEDS AS FOOD, SHELTER, HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION (GOVERNMENT ACTION OR

IN ACTION CAN VIOLATE THESE RIGHTS, FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGH

CORRUPT OFFICIAL PRACTICES THAT DIVERT RESOURCES FROM THE
NEEDY)

-- THE RIGHT TO ENJOY CIVIL AND POLITICAL LIBERTIES.
(FREEDOM OF SPEECH, THOUGHT, RELIGION AND ASSEMBLY: THE
RIGHT TO TRAVEL FREELY: THE FREEDOM TO TAKE PART IN
GOVERNMENT.)

B. SCENARIO: OUTLINE IN NO MORE THAN ONE PAGE STEPS TO
BE TAKEN TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN THE PRECED-
ING SECTION. ESTABLISH APPROPRIATE BENCHMARKS TO MEASURE
PROGRESS OR LACK THEREOF. SPECIFY POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE
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ACTIONS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE OUR GOALS WITHOUT DERAILING
OTHER PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE BASIC POLICY OBJECTIVES
OUTLINED IN PART II.

--IN PARTICULAR, OUTLINE THE US POSITION ON ANY UP-COMING
IFI LOANS, PL-480 OR OTHER BILATERAL ECONOMIC OR MILITARY
ASSISTANCE PROJECTS. ASSUME THAT, IF OUR SCENARIO FOR
OBTAINING OUR HUMAN RIGHTS GOALS RESULTS IN POSITIVE
PROGRESS, WE WOULD SUPPORT BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, BUT PERHAPS MAKE SUITABLE DEMARCHES
TO HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS EXPLAINING OUR POSITION TERMS
OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY. OUTLINE A SERIES OF LESS
POSITIVE ACTIONS THAT WOULD FLOW FROM THE FAILURE OF THE
GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE SORT OF POSITIVE HUMAN RIGHTS STEPS
WE SEEK. ASSUME A SIX TO 12 MONTH TIME FRAME FOR BOTH
SETS OF RESPONSES.

C. IMPACT ON OTHER POLICIES AND PROGRAMS: EXPLAIN HOW
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS IMPACT ON OTHER US INTERESTS AND
GOALS, AND HOW HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIONS COMPLEMENT ACTIVITIES
IN OTHER RELATED OR UNRELATED AREAS. CHRISTOPHER

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